GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1281
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2004
COMMITTEE ON FM-II LIBERALISATION
Thakkar Smt. Jayaben B.

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted the special Committee on FM-II Liberalisation;

(b) if so, the details regarding universe of discourse, term of reference, Members, their duties/ responsibilities etc;

(c) whether the task force/panel/committee had submitted its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the recommendations thereof;

(e) whether the Governrnent has accepted all the recommendations;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be implemented; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefore ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S.JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. A copy of the order constituting the committee giving details of composition , terms of reference ,etc. is at Annexure-I.

(c) & (d) The Committee had submitted its report to the Government in November,2003. The report of the Committee is available on this Ministry`s website (http:// www.mib.nic.in).

(e),(f) & (g) The Report had been referred to TRAI for making recommendations, which are awaited.

ANNEXURE-I

AS REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS(a) AND (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1281 FOR ANSWER ON 15.7.2004

No.212/94/2003-B(D)/FM
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
`A` Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

Dated: 24.07.2003

O R D E R

The Government is pleased to constitute a `Committee` to make recommendations for Radio Broadcasting for Phase − II. The Committee will consist of the following: -

S/SHRI

1. Amit Mitra (Chair Person) - FICCI

2. Dilip Chennoy - CII

3. Kiran Karnik - NASCOM

4. Ameen Sayani - Radio Personality

5. P.K. Garg, Wireless Adviser - WPC
6. K.M.Paul, E-in-C - AIR

7 KRP Verma, CMD - BECIL

8. Shardul Shroff - Amirchand Mangal Das

9. Ms Noreen Naqvi, DDG (Prog) - AIR
10. Ms Mahua Pal, Director - Ministry of I & B

3. The Committee may co-opt experts in the field as may be considered necessary from time to time, to obtain advice/inputs.

4. The Terms of Reference of the Committee will, inter-alia, include the following:-

(i) Determining a transparent and effective bidding /auction process to be adopted for allotment of frequencies.

(ii) Assessment of a viable licencee fee structure for the various cities (one time entry fee, fixed licence fees, revenue sharing etc.) to be based on clearly defined parameters.

(iii) Suggestions regarding extent of foreign equity participation in private FM in order to make them economically more viable/sustainable while also keeping in mind regimes in other sectors and requirements of national security.

(iv) Study the desirability and legal implications of making modifications in licensing regime of Phase-I licencees should a different licensing regime be proposed for phase-II.

(v) Suggestions for improvement in content being broadcast and considering the inclusion of news.

(vi) Examining the possibility of having non-commercial, non- advertisement driven channels, to be operated/licenced by the same commercial broadcasters; terms & conditions thereof; consideration of whether type of content of these channels could include subjects related to the heritage and culture of India.

(vii) Recommendations for a code of conduct in programming matters and method of strict enforcement for violations thereof.

(viii) Assessment of whether colocation is necessary and desirable and if found otherwise, approach to be adopted in the metros, where colocated set ups involving huge investments stand operationalised.

(ix) Determining the legal implications of the regime which may be proposed vis-Ã -vis the existing one.

(x) Formulating draft bidding documents and contract/licence agreement.

(xi) Other matters as may be referred to the Committee from time to time.

5. The Members of the Committee would participate and contribute on a voluntary basis and no Traveling/Daily Allowance or other incidental expenses would be payable by the Government.

6. The Committee will submit its report by the 30th September, 2003.

(MAHUA PAL)
DIRECTOR (BP&L)

TELE : 23381246

To,

All the members of the Committee